

August 25, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Jocelyn Boyd, Chief Clerk/Administrator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

**Re: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC Annual Review of Base Rates for Fuel
Costs Docket No. 2017-3-E**

Dear Ms. Boyd:

On July 8, 2017 Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (“DEC” or the “Company”) filed the direct testimony and exhibits of its witnesses. The Company requested that Exhibit 3 to witness Scott Batson’s testimony be accepted for filing under seal and maintained as confidential pursuant to Order No. 2005-226. A revised version of Confidential Exhibit 3 to correct a minor error was filed August 8, 2017.

In Order No. 2017-503 the Commission considered the request for confidentiality but carried over the matter until the Office of Regulatory Staff had an opportunity to respond to the request for confidentiality. This letter is intended to provide additional information to support the Company’s request for confidentiality.

DEC seeks an order, pursuant to 10 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-804(S)(2), Order No. 2005-226, and S.C. Code Ann. §30-4-40(a)(1) that Exhibit 3 to the testimony of Scott Batson contains confidential trade secret information and is therefore not a “public record” as that term is defined in R. 103-804(S).

Exhibit 3 contains the scheduled dates and duration of DEC’s planned refueling and maintenance outages for its nuclear units. The specific dates and durations of these scheduled outages is considered confidential information and protected as such by the Company. If this information was disclosed, it would reveal to the public details surrounding planned outages affecting a significant amount of DEC’s baseload generation, which could jeopardize DEC’s ability to safely, reliably, and economically provide effective service to its customers. The information contained in Exhibit 3 is market-sensitive and disclosure of it could advantage other market participants and competitively harm DEC in procuring cost-effective power and labor resources, thus having a negative impact on the Company’s ability to economically meet customer demand.

DEC submits that these facts concerning the information contained on Batson Exhibit 3 support a finding that the information is protectable trade secret



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information that should be maintained as confidential pursuant to Order No. 2005-226.

Please let us know if there are questions about the information contained in this letter.

Yours truly,

Frank R. Ellerbe, III

FRE:tch

Enclosures

cc/enc: Shannon B. Hudson, Esquire (via email, hand delivered confidential Ex 3)
Andrew M. Bateman, Esquire (via email, hand delivered confidential Ex 3)
Scott Elliott, Esquire (via email)
J. Blanding Holman, IV Esquire (via email)
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